

the Gateway

USAFE's Best Small Funded Newspaper for 2003



Vol. 62, No. 15, July 23, 2004, Rhein-Main AB, Germany

News Briefs

Gate realignment

The Rocket Gate is set to be closed to personally-owned vehicle traffic beginning Aug. 2.

Oversized delivery trucks and vans will be required to access the base via the Rocket Gate. Signs will be posted to direct trucks to the gate.

All POVs should use the Main Gate for access. This date is tentative and base residents should remain alert to any changes in this plan.

Quarterly award

Congratulations to **Katherine Savage**, 469th Air Base Group Services Flight, who won Civilian (Category II) quarterly award honors for the 435th Air Base Wing Wednesday at Ramstein.

Ms. Savage will now compete in the Kaiserslautern Military Community Second Quarter Awards competition set for Wednesday at Ramstein.

Promotees

Congratulations to **Staff Sgt. Samuel Nelson**, 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight, and **Tech. Sgt. Darryl Nelson**, 726th Air Mobility Squadron, who were recently notified of their promotions to technical sergeant and master sergeant respectively in the latest out-of-cycle promotion list.

Liberty closure

The Liberty Cafe in the Rocket Bowling Center will be closed Aug. 1-22 for annual leave.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

Four-star visit

Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, meets **Oberstleutnant Klaus Stark** (middle) and **Oberleutnant Matthias Greune**, during his first official visit to Rhein-Main Thursday. The general met with Airmen throughout the 469th Air Base Group and tenant units during his brief stay.

JSIVA team to visit base

DoD experts to assess Rhein-Main's anti-terrorism measures

By Airman 1st Class Eric Donner
Public Affairs

Rhein-Main's size and fast-approaching closure date don't take it off a possible terrorist attack list. As recent events have proven, any American installation can be a target.

The safety of installations is maintained by security forces and guidelines set by the Department of Defense.

A DoD anti-terrorism team of experts will visit Rhein-Main from Aug. 8-13 to find strengths and weaknesses in the base populace's reaction to a potential terrorist attack and its ability to counter an attack. The team forms a Joint Staff Integrated Vulnerability Assessment or "JSIVA" for short.

After the 1996 terrorist attack on Khobar Towers, Saudi Arabia, a DoD task force found there weren't any published force protections guidelines for installations. As a result, JSIVA teams were formed in 1997 to test installations' ability to react to terrorist attack.

See **JSIVA**, Page 7



USAFE Airman Information File

July 2004

Air Expeditionary Force -- Be Prepared

Six years ago the Air Force created Air Expeditionary Force packages to rapidly deploy air and space power anywhere in the world. The AEF concept has proven itself repeatedly during Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM -- improving predictability and stability while getting our Airmen to the fight.

Despite success with our Air and Space Expeditionary Force, two significant changes were needed to meet the demands of ongoing operations around the world. First, the new baseline deployment for the AEF increased from 90 to 120 days. This provides increased continuity to our deployed commanders who require the steady and stable expertise you bring to the fight.

The second change is to expand the number of Airmen available for AEF deployments. USAFE has already instituted measures to increase our available pool from 83% to 97%.

Today 1,176 USAFE Airmen are deployed in many different AORs from Afghanistan, to Iraq, to Africa while others are executing the fight from home. You are doing a great job and we thank you for your sacrifices. However, the work is not finished -- we must continue to press ahead!

Increased predictability and stability for our Airmen are key benefits of the AEF, but only if you take advantage of the time you have. Now is the time to prepare for your next AEF deployment:

Prepare your family. There are many things you can do ahead of time to make deployments less stressful on the family: get your finances in order and maintain up to date family records in a central location, to name a few.

Ensure your training is current. Know what training is required and complete it on time. The last thing you want to do on your way out the door is spend time accomplishing overdue training.

Maintain a high degree of physical fitness. It's tough to deploy and accomplish the mission if you're physically run down or even worse on the sidelines sick. Fit to fight are words to live by.

We are all expeditionary Airmen serving in the world's premier Air Force. AEF is more than a concept; it's our way of life. Be prepared and stay vigilant!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doc Foglesong", written over a horizontal line.

General Doc Foglesong

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Coleman", written over a horizontal line.

CMSgt Gary Coleman

"Bring Your Courage"



Photo by 1st Lt. Uriah Orland

On the way home

More than 270 Navy dependents and 10 pets from Bahrain arrived at Rhein-Main July 11 on their way back to Norfolk Naval Base in Virginia. The State Department issued a travel warning July 1 urging U.S. citizens in Bahrain to consider departing. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld approved the temporary relocation of eligible family members and non-emergency Defense Department personnel from Bahrain the following day. Several base agencies greeted the dependents at 4 a.m. in the 726th Air Mobility Command passenger terminal.

Clean sweep of trash at Rhein-Main

Airmen hit pavement to put Combat Proud program into full swing

By Airman 1st Class Eric Donner
Public Affairs

Rhein-Main's beauty and cleanliness does not happen with a wave of the wand.

Operation Clean Sweep helps make the base sparkle.

Clean Sweep is part of Rhein-Main's effort to meet Combat Proud requirements. Combat Proud, a program started in November of 2003 by Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, is designed to improve the appearance of bases to foster pride and productivity throughout the command.

A two-Airman Clean Sweep crew drives Rhein-Main's distinguished visitors' route Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings.

"They look for eye sores and facilities that need to be cleaned up," said Master Sgt. Donald Anderson, 469th Air Base Group Civil Engineer Flight quality assurance inspector.

"The crews are responsible for pick-

ing up big items in no-mans land."

If they spot a facility in need of cleaning or maintenance, the building manager is contacted and informed of the areas that need attention. Building managers are responsible for the area up to 50 feet from their building.

In the afternoon, Clean Sweep crews help facility managers clean up and complete any tasks remaining from the morning.

Every flight in the 469th ABG participates in Operation Clean Sweep. The commander's support staff creates a weekly schedule designating different flights to perform the duty.

Once a flight has been scheduled, any member from airman to staff sergeant may be required to participate. This decision is left up to flight chiefs or the NCO in charge to decide which members help with the clean up.

Anyone on base can help point out areas of concern to Clean Sweep officials.

The civil engineer flight quality assessment office requests e-mails with a short description of the location of the trash or eyesore.

E-mails can be sent to combat.proud@rheinmain.af.mil.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers

Tim Spermhake (right) and Mutie Hassan, Pacific Architects and Engineers carpenters, lay paving stones in front of the Rhein-Main base exchange/commissary complex as part of a Combat Proud initiative to beautify the grounds near the complex. To find out more about Combat Proud, log on to <https://www.mil.usafe.af.mil/direct/cc/ccx/Combat/proud/> or check out USAFE Instruction 10-203.

AEF rotations call for leadership flexibility

The mission of Det. 3, 401st Air Expeditionary Wing, formerly the 16th Expeditionary Support Squadron, is to screen, train and equip all Air Force members and Department of Defense contractors deploying to the Balkans, the former Republic of Yugoslavia.

I took over as the first permanent party commander for 16th ESS at Rhein-Main in November of 2002.

Prior to my assignment, the commander position was a rotational Air Expeditionary Force officer. However, 16th Air Force decided that having a permanent party commander would help provide continuity as well as alleviate any possible quality problems within the unit.

Having the entire detachment rotate every three to four months presents unique challenges. At the beginning of my tour, I encountered training and deployment issues that were occasionally misdirected or somehow left unfinished by earlier rotations.

Initially, even the procedures for deployment processing and training for Stabilization Forces (SFOR) and Kosovo Forces (KFOR) kept changing from one rotation to the next. After being in place for a few weeks, I realized why the unit needed at least

one permanent party member.

With such a large personnel turnover, every rotation is like a management psychology laboratory. As a result, I get to consistently tweak my leadership style and see what works best for the troops. Many times I wish I had a "magic leadership kit in a box" that applied itself to every situation in each rotation.



*By Capt.
Richard Macalino
Det. 3, 401st AEW
commander*

Sometimes I compare the personnel arriving here to a box of chocolates – you never know what you'll get – it's always a surprise. More often than not, it's a pleasant surprise.

The current rotation is my sixth one, including the team I had for almost eight months during the AEF freeze. What's common to each is that every rotation brings with it a myriad of expertise and knowledge that can improve our

operations. The constant challenge is to tap into these resources and focus energies to help "build a better mouse trap."

When in the commander's chair, leading people sometimes means dealing with those who've ventured off the normal path. In a perfect world, troops would simply enjoy their tour here, do an outstanding job for me and

————— See 401st AEW, Page 5

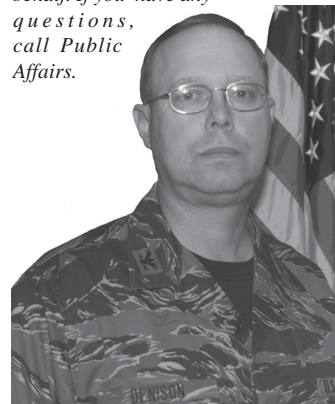
The Action Line is one way for me to keep my finger on the pulse of the Rhein-Main community and is used as an avenue for communication.

The main objective of the Commander's Action Line is finding solutions to problems or providing explanations for processes.

If you experience problems at Rhein-Main, you should always try to resolve problems at the lowest level by contacting the unit or agency managers. In almost every case, your chain of command is the best solution. I strongly encourage everyone to use that route first. When normal channels haven't been able to resolve your issues, feel free to send an e-mail to Hotline@rheinmain.af.mil or call 330-7779. Please include your name and contact information along with your concern.

Action Lines are forwarded to the appropriate agency for action and response. They should contact you within 24 hours. Once an Action Line is started, the agency must provide a complete answer to me within 10 days.

The 469th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office is responsible for managing the Action Line program on my behalf. If you have any questions, call Public Affairs.



*Col. Bradley Denison
Commander, 469th Air Base Group*

330-7779

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the Gateway

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*The deadline for the Aug. 6
edition of the Gateway is
4 p.m., July 29.*

Warriors of the Week



Tech. Sgt. Jacqueline Pinkett-Smith

Unit: 469th ABG

Time in AF services: 11 years active, 9 years Reserve

Time at Rhein-Main: 4 years

Duty Title: Assistant NCOIC of Customer Service

Hometown: Tyakin, Md.

Hobbies: Singing, travel and event planning

What has been your best Air Force experience?

Completing Reserve recruiters school and sharing Air Force opportunities with high school students



James Greig

Unit: 469th ABG Education and Training Flight

Time in service: 23 years active duty, 3 years civil service

Time at Rhein-Main: 3 months

Duty Title: Director of education and training

Hometown: HammondsPort, N.Y.

Hobbies: Reading science fiction, working out

What has been your best Air Force experience?

Teaching at the Air Force Academy

401st AEW, from Page 4

leave without any infractions. If only that was the case.

Unfortunately, along with the variety of expertise I get from rotating troops, every now and then some troops slip up and appear in the Rhein-Main blotter.

No matter how many commanders' calls and unit policy briefings are given, some folks will still try to circumvent the system for purely selfish reasons. I'm very thankful that this only happens to a very small minority of the troops I get.

The NCOs and SNCOs do a good job of mentoring the younger folks and keep them out of trouble. The troops do an outstanding job and go above and beyond the call of duty to serve our brethren in the Balkans.

Throughout the different "leadership laboratories" of various AEF rotations, I've learned a few things and developed a few AEF rotation rules to live by:

1) Establish and give clear guidance on what troops can and can't do while here on temporary duty.

2) Convey policies to troops early and answer any questions they might have regarding the TDY or their job.

3) Let them know the importance of the mission and the service they're providing while attached to the unit.

Additionally, I always let them know that while the Balkans mission may not be in the front page of the news any longer, the service they provide will have a lasting impact on the future of the countries under SFOR and KFOR monitoring. The success of the mission in the Balkans also serves as a template for our future roles in other areas of operations.

The most important lesson of all is simply showing the troops that you care. This includes making sure they have all their basic needs taken care of, keeping an open door policy and listening to their feedback in case things are not working according to plan.

The bottom line is to strive for constant improvement and to ask yourself if you have done everything to provide your troops the best working environment possible, the right tools for the job and the motivation to always strive for excellence.

As a commander, your troops will always know if you really care about them or if you're just putting up a false front.

Guten tag.



Gas to go

385th AEG roadshow stops at Rhein-Main to support OEF, OIF

By Staff Sgt. Leo Brown
Public Affairs

Although the Rhein-Main's closure in December 2005 inches ever closer, operations at the "Gateway to Europe" continue at a hectic pace.

As proof, six KC-135 Stratotankers from the 385th Air Expeditionary Group at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, began operations here recently to continue refueling support for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The 385th AEG stood up in August 2003 and provides 24-hour support for C-17, C-5 and E-8 JSTARS aircraft. The group has flown more than 1,000 sorties and delivered nearly 11,000,000 gallons of jet fuel.

So why the move to Rhein-Main?

"There's a runway closure at Incirlik and the powers-that-be decided that this was the place that we needed to stage out of during the temporary runway closure," said Capt. Bryce Butler, 385th AEG operations officer. The runway is scheduled to be closed for a 10-day period for routine maintenance.

Working shifts up to 18-hours a day to support as many as six missions a day, 385th AEG members said they have received excellent support from Air Force members both permanently and temporarily based at Rhein-Main.

"They're working with us to get moved in," said Captain Butler. "Whatever we ask for, they deliver."

Maj. Darryl Jett, a 385th AEG KC-135 copilot, echoed Butler's feelings.

"The C-17 guys across the street (the 817th Expeditionary Aerospace Squadron) have been extra helpful," he said. "They helped us out with some flight plans software and they get huge kudos from us."

"We've had to go from zero to up and running inside of a day," he added.

"It's been hectic," Captain Butler said in an interview two days after landing. "Our guys have been working 15-16 hour shifts trying to get us set up."

"It's like a mini unit deployment – we



Photo by Airman 1st Class Eric Donner

A C-17 from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., with a McChord Air Force Base, Wash., crew aboard, tops off on fuel over the Black Sea Tuesday. Air National Guard members of the 186th Air Refueling Wing from Key Field in Meridian, Miss., flew the seven-hour refueling mission from Rhein-Main aboard a KC-135.

have a conglomeration of people."

The unit deployed with their own communications, intelligence, operations and maintenance personnel."

This "conglomeration" is made up of roughly 140 Air National Guard and active-duty Airmen from the 186th Air Refueling Wing based at Key Field Air National Guard Base in Meridian, Miss., the 117th Air Refueling Wing based at Birmingham International Airport, Ala., the 100th Air Refueling Wing based at RAF Mildenhall, and the 22nd Air Refueling Wing based at McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.

"We've had a really good working relationship with our sister guard units and with the active duty guys here," said Captain Butler, a member of the 186th ARW. "We've had a lot of work going on, but once we get all the bugs worked out and all the people in we'll get into a routine. It's a pretty big operation."

The 385th AEG will operate from Rhein-Main through early August when the 141st Air Refueling Wing from Fairchild

AFB, Wash., takes over the reins at Incirlik. Even though moving from Turkey to Germany has been challenging, Captain Butler said there is at least one benefit.

"The weather is a lot cooler here," he said. "It was just hot, very hot, at Incirlik and coming here has been like going from summer to late fall."

The challenges for Team Rhein-Main are the same as with any deploying aircraft package, according to Lt. Col. Michael Polhemus, 726th Air Mobility Squadron commander.

"This is the fourth time in the last 15 months that Team Rhein-Main has done this," he said. "There's a robust infrastructure on base and the squadron will absorb it with little effort, as (the 385th) easily dovetail into our current operations."

(Sergeant Brown, a member of the Air Force Reserve's 442nd Fighter Wing's Public Affairs office at Whiteman AFB, Mo., is on temporary duty with the 469th ABG Public Affairs Office.)



Around Rhein-Main

Retreat ceremony

The next retreat ceremony at Rhein-Main is set for 4:30 p.m. July 29 at the base flag pole, Bldg. 347.

The 469th Air Base Group Services Flight sponsors the ceremony designed to signal the end of the official duty day and to pay respect to the flags of the United States and Germany.

People interested in participating in the ceremony should be in place by 4:15 p.m.

Testing cycle changes

All master sergeants competing for promotion to senior master sergeant will now take the U.S. Air Force Supervisory Examination test between Dec. 6 and 17. The testing cycle will no longer be in January.

Air Force officials said ongoing air and space expeditionary force deployments supporting the war on terror have dramatically reduced the number of eligible Airmen available to test during the current testing window.

Moving the testing cycle will allow more time for out-of-cycle testing before promotion release. The change will not affect the promotion announcement or the months during which promotions are made for the cycle. Testing conducted after Dec. 17 will be considered out of cycle.

Space-A lodging

The Air Force Services Agency director at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, announced recently an expanded space-available reservation policy designed to maximize occupancy at lodging facilities.

Under the new system, lodging officials can accept and confirm space-A lodging reservations up to 30 days in advance based on low projected occupancy rates, Arthur Myers wrote in a policy memorandum.

The window for reservations decreases as the percentage of projected occupancy rises. For example, when a projected occupancy rate is 65 percent or less, space-A guests can make reservations up to 30 days in advance. At 80 percent, the reservation

window is two weeks. It's seven days for 85 percent, and three days for 86 percent.

Dining facility

The 64th Replacement Company operates the only military dining facility on base.

The facility's theme menu rotates on a weekly basis. The menu is:

- Monday – American
- Tuesday – Italian
- Wednesday – Asian Pacific
- Thursday – Soul Food
- Friday – Seafood

Trespass notice

The 469th Air Base Group Combat Arms Training and Maintenance Small Arms range, located at Rhein-Main, is off-limits to everyone except those scheduled for training.

Trespassing is not only illegal, but potentially dangerous.

For further information, call 330-6827.

JSIVA, from Page 1

Each installation's higher headquarters anti-terrorism and force protection programs are assessed at least every three years, according to DoD regulations. The Defense Threat Reduction Agency helps installations meet requirements through the JSIVAs.

JSIVA teams consist of active duty, reserve and civilian personnel from throughout the DoD. The teams visit designated military installations worldwide to assess physical security measures, infrastructure support, vulnerabilities and the ability of the installation to respond to the incident.

"There will be no exercises (during the JSIVA)," said Tech. Sgt. Victor Odom, 469th Air Base Group anti-terrorism and force protection officer. "However, people may be asked about their role in anti-terrorism. The team may also question personnel concerning bomb threats and evacuation procedures or responses to a terrorist incident."

A lot has changed in the world since the last assessment was done at Rhein-Main. Following the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, changes were made in force protection and anti-terrorism efforts.

"The last assessment at this level was in 1999," said Sergeant Odom. "The installation as a whole has made great strides in the area of anti-terrorism and force protection program improvement."

"We expect to do fairly well – we don't expect any major findings," he added.

Tips for a successful JSIVA

- Know your facility's primary and secondary rally points
- Review your facility's shelter in-place checklists:
 - For personnel outside the building
 - For personnel inside (*external hazardous material release*)
 - For personnel inside (*internal hazardous material release*)
- Review the base's weapons of mass destruction response checklist
- Review the base's terrorism incident response checklists:
 - For personnel inside and outside of a building
- Review Air Force Form 440 (Bomb Threat Aid)

Although the JSIVA may come across as an inspection to some, it's actually a teaching tool to inform commanders of potential terrorist targets.

After the assessment is completed and vulnerabilities have been identified, Col. Bradley Denison, 469th ABG commander, will receive a report of recommended actions to help with security and ways to help recover from a potential attack.

"The community needs to know it's not just the military being assessed," said Sergeant Odom. "It's a military and civilian team effort to deter or counter terrorism."

"Military members need to pass on information to their families – families need to know what actions they need to take to help with force protection and anti-terrorism," he added.

Charleston Airman dies in maintenance accident

CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. — Tech. Sgt. Joseph Gardner III died early July 18 while performing an inspection on a C-17 Globemaster III.

An investigation is currently under way to determine how he became pinned under the spoiler on the aircraft's wing.

Sergeant Gardner, 37, was an integrated avionics technician with the 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron here. He entered the Air Force in August 1988, arrived here in 2002, and was being re-assigned to the 723rd Air Mobility Squadron at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, later this month.

Hailing from Eight Mile, Ala., Sergeant Gardner was single and is survived by his parents, Joseph and Claudia Gardner, and his sister, Lori, and brother, Kenneth.

Sergeant Gardner was deployed to Rhein-Main from March to May earlier this year.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Aloha

Taylor White, 5-year-old daughter of Staff Sgt. Jonathan and Crystal White, 469th Air Base Group clinic, takes part in a song during the final day of the Lava Lava Island Vacation Bible School July 16 at the Rhein-Main Chapel. Fifty-seven children took part in the final Bible school on base. A staff of 25 teens and adults taught classes and crafts. The chapel sanctuary is scheduled to close in August 2005 and an alternate location will be designated for chapel worship services. Sunday School and Catholic religious education classes will end in May 2005.

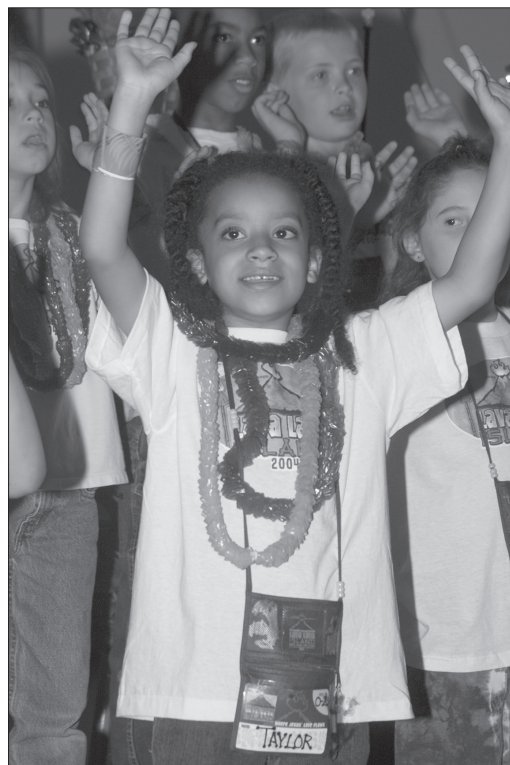


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers

Rules restrict political activity

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — With election activity steadily picking up, defense officials remind servicemembers and Defense Department civilians that they are subject to rules regulating their involvement in political activities.

Gone are the days when the military posted troops at the polls after the Civil War, an act that Steve Epstein, director of the DoD's general counsel's standards of conduct office, said intimidated many southerners into not voting.

Today, Mr. Epstein said two sets of rules help protect the integrity of the political process: a DoD directive for active-duty servicemembers and the Hatch Act for federal civilians. These rules keep the military out of partisan politics and ensure that the workplace remains politically neutral, he said.

That is not to imply that they cannot participate in politics. Mr. Epstein said DoD encourages both groups to register to vote and vote as they choose, and to urge others to vote. Both groups can sign nominating petitions for candidates and express their personal opinions about candidates and issues — but only if they do not do so as representatives of the armed forces. Also, all federal employees can make contributions to political organizations or

candidates. Beyond that, the list of restrictions differs widely, depending on whether the employee is an active-duty servicemember, a rank-and-file civil service employee, a political appointee or a member of the career senior executive service, Mr. Epstein said.

Of all DoD employees, uniformed servicemembers have the most restrictions regarding political activity, he explained. A 1993 revision to the Hatch Act freed most civil service employees to engage in political activities outside the workplace that were once forbidden, although many restrictions still apply.

For example, servicemembers as well as government civilians can attend political meetings or rallies. Servicemembers can attend only as spectators and not in uniform. They are not permitted to make public political speeches, serve in any official capacity in partisan groups, or participate in partisan political campaigns or conventions.

On the other hand, civilian employees governed by the Hatch Act may be active in and speak before political gatherings or serve as officers of political parties or partisan groups. They also are permitted to manage campaigns, distribute literature, write political articles or serve as a spokesperson for a party or candidate.

Servicemembers generally are not permitted to campaign for a political office. Civilian employees are, as long as it is a nonpartisan election.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)



Closure Corner

This section is devoted to giving the Rhein-Main Community the most up-to-date information concerning base closure issues. All dates presented in this section are subject to change based on: manpower figures, personnel assignment information and ongoing U.S. Air Forces in Europe coordination.

Services

Q: What is the schedule for closing morale, welfare and recreation activities and services?

A: Following is a schedule for closing 469th Air Base Group Services Flight programs. This schedule currently serves as a planning tool to identify the timing of services base closure requirements and is subject to change:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Closure date</u>
■ Lodging (Phased Reduction)	Jan. 1, 2005
■ Auto skills	April 29, 2005
■ Bowling center	April 29, 2005
■ Rocket Sports Lounge	May 31, 2005
■ Child development center	June 30, 2005
■ Community Connection	June 30, 2005
■ Library	June 30, 2005
■ Youth Center	Aug. 31, 2005
■ Zeppelinhaus	Aug. 31, 2005
■ Fitness center	Aug. 31, 2005
■ Flight kitchen	Sept. 30, 2005
■ Services administration	Nov. 3, 2005

Q: How long will we have a weight room? How long will we have exercise equipment and exercise classes? Will intramural sports continue?

A: Current plans show a commitment to provide a variety of fitness programs to the community until Aug. 31, 2005. Leading up to that date people may see some "right-sizing" of the fitness program commensurate to the community's population. The number of pieces of equipment on the floor may be reduced as demand and usage diminishes. Our goal will be to provide fitness equipment, instructional classes and sports programs until August of 2005.

Q: A lot of people have pets and will want to ship them

to their new home. Will a veterinarian be coming, and if so, for how long?

A: Current veterinarian service is provided by Army personnel at Darmstadt. They will continue to provide a monthly service all the way through base closure.

Q: Will the child development center and youth services be open for our children throughout closure and will special arrangements be made for additional workloads?

A: The child development center and school age care programs will be operational as long as each program can meet Air Force child/adult classroom ratios to provide a safe and healthy environment for children. As active-duty personnel PSC, and their dependents that comprise our employee base move away, the shrinking community will have fewer people to fill needed jobs. Employees will be the catalyst for maintaining strong and viable childcare programs at Rhein-Main. This means sustaining a qualified workforce of childcare providers will be the key to successfully providing these critical services to the community.

Q: When will the Gateway Inn close? Will there be temporary living quarters available for my family and I when we out process?

A: The Gateway Inn is a vital piece of the base's housing plan. As we draw towards closure a phased reduction based on mission requirements in support of temporary duty customer traffic and family needs will be implemented.

Traffic management office

Q: Will the local agent be able to handle the increased workload without damaging personal property shipments?

A: Yes. There are more than 20 local agents who provide service to Rhein-Main.

Q: Will there be a large number of persons requesting pack out dates at the same time the teachers will?

A: There is a possibility that there will be a lot of people packing out at the same time. However, there will be ample companies to fulfill the need.

Q: If I am staying until closure, how long can I keep my car before I will need to ship it?

A: Individuals need to contact the vehicle processing center at Mainz-Kastel for automobile shipping. The number is DSN 334-2723 or commercial 06134-69303.

DUI Tracker

Days without DUIs (As of Tuesday)

469th Air Base Group

87 days

726th Air Mobility Squadron

176 days

64th Replacement Company

67 days

Tenant Units

32 days

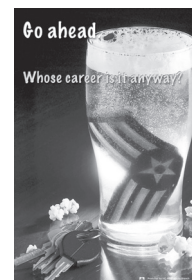
Others

189 days

The 469th ABG Top IV provides a

fund at the main gate for permanent party personnel who take a taxi back to the base instead of driving while intoxicated.

The money used must be reimbursed the next duty day.



Softball glory up for grabs

By Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers
Public Affairs

Eight teams are set to leave it all on the field as the 2004 Rhein-Main Intramural Softball League post-season tournament gets underway Monday.

The top four teams from the American and National leagues will compete in a double-elimination format tourney to see who can claim bragging rights following the championship game set for 7 p.m. July 30. At press time regular-season makeup games were yet to be played, so the exact pairings were not known.

But, coaches of several of the teams who think their squads have a shot at taking the title weren't shy in their predictions.

"If we hit and field like we're supposed to we will be a force to be recognized," said Joe Hamilton, coach of the 726th Air Mobility Squadron team that finished third in the National League with an 8-5 record. "If we play to our potential we have a shot."

Noel Van Hassel, coach of the National League's 469th Air Base Group, a team that finished second based on head-to-head play, is confident in his team's chances to overcome earlier shortfalls.

"No one is a problem," he said. "If we hit up and down the lineup we'll be fine."

Harley McCurter, coach of the Fire Department, holders of the best regular-season record at 11-2, said his team would leave their comments on the field.

Softball scoreboard as of Wednesday

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	T
Lufthansa	8	5	0
SFS	7	5	1
Consulate	6	6	0
ETC	4	7	1
64th RC	0	11	0

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L
Fire Department	11	2
469th ABG	11	2
726th AMS	8	5
TSTA	5	8
AFN	2	11

For more details, call the fitness center at 330-7151.

(Scores compliments of the fitness center)

Sports Briefs

Fitness challenge

July's Flight Fitness Challenge is set for 3:30 p.m. Thursday at the fitness center.

Come and see Rhein-Main units compete for fitness fame and glory in events including a 1.5-mile run, push-ups, sit-ups, a football toss and a 40-yard dash.

Young athlete

Raustin Hernandez, son of Master Sgt. Chris and Rayenna Hernandez, recently took first place in the Overseas Boys and Girls Club of America Fitness Authority Heptathlon.

He earned the title as the Boys and Girls Club European & Asian Fittest 12-13 year old and is considered among the top six fittest 12-13 year olds in the world.

Raustin will compete at the University of Miami in the national championships set for Aug. 6-8. Events include 100-yard dash, half-mile run, standing long jump, push-ups, sit-ups, jump rope and lateral hops.

Crystal Lewis from the Rhein-Main Youth Center developed Raustin's seven-days-a-week training plan.

Golf tourney

The 469th Air Base Group Top IV spon-

sors a golf tourney Aug. 26 at Rheinblick Golf Course in Wiesbaden.

The tourney is open to all members of the 469th Air Base Group and Pacific Architects and Engineers.

Format is four-person teams, best-ball scramble. Cost is \$20 and includes greens fees, a cart, range balls and rental clubs if needed.

The fee also includes lunch. Deadline to sign up is Aug. 16. See Master Sgt. John Smith, 469th ABG Civil Engineer Flight Fire Department, to sign up. Transportation will be limited to the first 20 people who request it.



Speed racer

Dave Gallagher, 469th Air Base Group Civil Engineer Flight, kept his hold on first place in the U.S. Forces Europe Mountain Bike Championship Series with a third place and first place finish in Hohenfels and Ramstein respectively.

Gallagher took third in the Men's Military Senior Division at Hohenfels June 26 in time of 83:34. He bounced back with a first-place finish at Ramstein July 10 in a time of 52:02. His next race is set for Aug. 7 in Giessen.

Apply within

The fitness center is looking for people interested in umpiring or teaching aerobics classes.

For more information, call 330-6062.

Fitness director

Jannell Villanueva is the new fitness director at the base fitness center. Mrs. Villanueva is available to develop program designs for individuals and perform equipment orientations and familiarizations to demonstrate the proper use and operation of machines and equipment.

Military members can see any member of the fitness center staff for help with fitness issues.

Spin class

The fitness center offers free Spin classes from 12:15-1:15 p.m. and 6-6:45 p.m. each Monday and 6-6:45 p.m. Fridays. This 45-minute class is a super-energetic workout. Participants will burn calories and increase fitness with interval drills, hill sprints and speed training with music specially designed for the cycle.

Cowboy breakfast

The Zeppelinhaus hosts a Cowboy Breakfast consisting of steak and eggs, hash browns and baked beans from 8-10 a.m. Saturday.

Cost is \$6.50 for adults, \$3.25 for kids under 12 and free for children under four.

Children's theater

Rhein-Main youth can try out for "Jungle Book with a Twist," presented by the Missoula Children's Theater.

Tryouts begin at 9 a.m. Monday in the youth center gym and kicks off the children's theater clinic that runs through July 31. The clinic fee is \$10.

Call 330-7125 for more details.

German culture

Robert Emmerth presents the first class in a six-week German culture series from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday in the family support center classroom in Bldg. 347.

The series includes history, politics, transportation, culture and more. Participants can attend one or all classes in the series.

For more information, call 330-7992.

Eat and learn

The family support center sponsors "Lunch and Learn German" from noon

to 1 p.m. Wednesday at the FSC in Bldg. 347.

Thrift shop

The last day to consign items at the base thrift shop is Thursday. Donations will be accepted through Sept. 30. The shop will close in October.

For more information, call 330-7095.

ITT closure

Effective July 30 all Ticket and Tour services related to Enjoy Tours and other travel related information will cease in the Community Connection, Bldg. 349.

Customers can access a wealth of sources in the local community. Similar services are available on-line and in the local SATO offices at the Frankfurt Airport, Hanau, Weisbaden and Darmstadt.

Other local travel information is also available at the family support center and local USO locations.

For more information, call 330-6158.

Friday feast

The family support center sponsors its monthly Friday Feast July 30.

The FSC staff will meet at the shoppette at 6:30 p.m. and carpool to Lindo's Mexican restaurant in Mainz.

KidsDay

A National KidsDay celebration is set for noon - 6 p.m. July 31 at the Rhein-Main Youth Center.

Participants can choose from a parent/child fun run or family scavenger hunt. Following the events, participants can enjoy snacks, games, a crazy obstacle course, crafts and various contests.

All youth participants will receive a free T-shirt. Volunteers are needed.

Call 330-7125 for more details.

New hours

As of Aug. 1, the auto skills center will be open Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The center will not be open July 31. For more details, call 330-7467.

Heart Link

Heart Link or the New Spouse Orien-

Movies at Rhein-Main

Tonight - "Man of Fire," (R), 7 p.m.

Saturday - "13 Going On 30," (PG-13), 5 p.m., and "The Terminal," (PG-13), 7:30 p.m.

Sunday - "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Wednesday - "Anchorman," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

July 30 - "Van Helsing," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

July 31 - "New York Minute," (PG), 5 p.m., and "The Notebook," (PG-13), 7:30 p.m.

Aug. 1 - "To be announced locally," 7 p.m.

Aug. 4 - "To be announced locally," 7 p.m.

Aug. 6 - "To be announced locally," 7 p.m.

Aug. 7 - "To be announced locally," 5 p.m., and "To be announced locally," 7:30 p.m.

Movies and times are subject to change.

Movie schedules for local communities can be found at

www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp

tation Program, is set for 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 10 at Our House in Bldg. 627 B-2.

The program offers information on the Rhein-Main mission, military protocol, acronyms, pay and benefits and Air Force Services programs. All spouses are invited and those married five years or less are highly encouraged to attend.

There will be giveaways and Polish pottery for every attendee. On-site child care is available. Breakfast and lunch are provided. Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Mailing deadlines

All military members stationed overseas should request an absentee voting ballot by Aug. 15 to ensure timely delivery. Members should mail their ballots back no later than Oct. 15.

For more information, call 330-6384.

Chapel Worship

The following worship opportunities are offered by the Rhein-Main Chapel:

■ Catholic worship:

Sunday Mass - 9 a.m. every Sunday.

Penance - 8-8:30 a.m. Sundays or by appointment.

■ Protestant worship:

Worship and Kids Own Church take place every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Call 069-699-7501 for more information.



Home of the Hindenburg

Air travel roots deep at Rhein-Main

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Leo Brown
Public Affairs

A fascinating and thrilling era of Rhein-Main Air Base's rich history can be discovered in the Zeppelin-Museum in Zeppelinheim, a short drive from the base's main gate.

The museum features numerous photographs, models and artifacts – including an original airship engine recovered several years ago at Rhein-Main. The displays give visitors a window into the earliest zeppelin flights at the turn of the 20th century, the famous crash of the Hindenburg at Lakehurst, N.J., in 1937, and the air ships' demise during World War II.

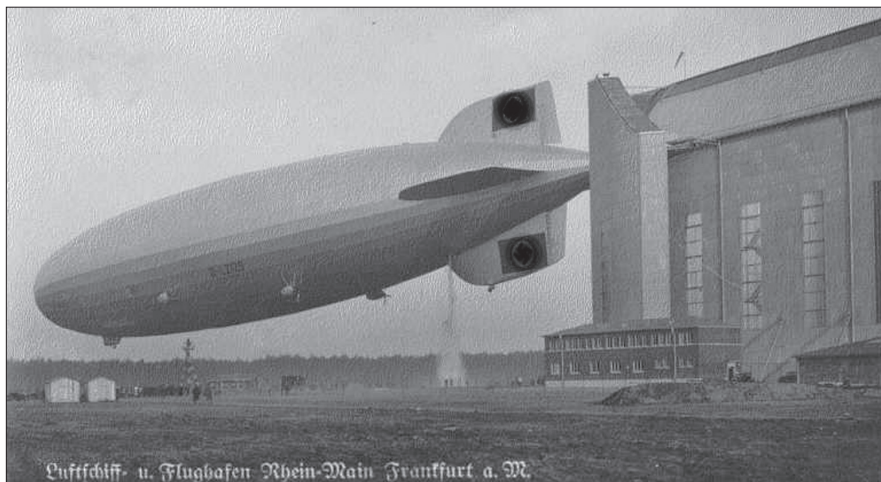
In 1909, Count von Zeppelin used Rhein-Main as a landing site for his lighter than air dirigible Z-II. Germany had planned the site for use as one of the most important European air terminals on the continent.

In 1936, the base opened for commercial use. The northern part was used by airplanes and the extreme southern part near Zeppelinheim served as a base for rigid airships.

The site became the port for the Graf Zeppelin, its sister ship LZ-130 and until its crash, the Hindenburg. The airships were dismantled and their huge hangars demolished on May 6, 1940, when the base was converted for military use. One of the only remaining structures from that era is Bldg. 30, a rectangular brick building across the street from the current 726th Air Mobility Command headquarters.

Museum pictures show the enormous airship halls. Visitors can also take a look at Rio de Janeiro through the windows of a life-sized replica of the Hindenburg's promenade deck.

Although display explanations are in German, American visitors may well meet museum volunteers or German visitors who have at least a working knowledge of English. On two recent visits to the museum, it took little prompting for two volunteers, Wilfried and Margot Chelios, and a Frankfurt Airport firefighter who was visiting, to share their



Courtesy photo

This Zeppelin postcard from the 1930s clearly shows Bldg. 30, a brick structure still standing across the street from the current 726th Air Mobility Squadron headquarters at Rhein-Main. The Zeppelins first came to the base in 1909 when Count von Zeppelin landed Z-II on the south end of the base.

knowledge and enthusiasm about the airship era.

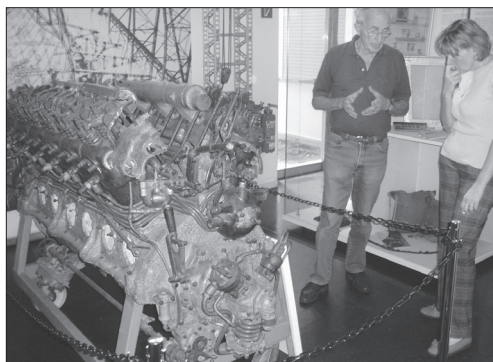
From the base's main gate, follow the yellow highway sign for "Frankfurt, Sprendlingen, Neu Isenberg, Zeppelinheim". Take the first left (N-I-Zeppelinheim), which is 1.7 kilometers from the main gate. Take the first right (Hundertmorgenweg – there will be a Zeppelin museum sign), then the next left (Forsthausweg). The museum is on the left. Zeppelinheim can also be reached on the Frankfurt-Mannheim train.

There is no admission fee and donations are accepted. Books, models and other merchandise are available for purchase. The museum is open on Fridays from 1-5 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Group visits can be scheduled for Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays by calling 6969-4390, by faxing 6969-2016 or by e-mailing zeppelin-museum@t-online.de. The museum's

address is Zeppelin-Museum, Kapitan-Lehmann-Str. 2, D-63263 Zeppelinheim.

(Sergeant Brown, a member of the Air Force Reserve's 442nd Fighter Wing's Public Affairs office at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., is on temporary duty with the 469th ABG Public Affairs Office.)



Wilfried Chelios, a museum volunteer, discusses a Zeppelin engine unearthed at Rhein-Main in the 1960s with Monika Salfelder from the 469th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office.